



USDA – National
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Service, Tennessee
Field Office

Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin



Cooperating with
Tennessee Department
of Agriculture

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Week Ending April 30, 2006

SCATTERED SHOWERS SLOW FIELDWORK

After citing the need for more rainfall a week earlier, the State’s farmers got their wish in the form of scattered showers and thunderstorms. Several fronts to the north and west of Tennessee brought rainy weather to most parts of the State last week benefiting pastures and recently planted crops, but slowing fieldwork. This was especially true for planting activities, which were delayed by wet field conditions. As of Sunday, corn growers had planted nearly 90 percent of their intended acreage with 70 percent of the crop emerged. Cotton and soybean planting, though slowed by showers, should pick up speed this week once fields dry. Winter wheat continued its rapid development and was about a week ahead of the normal schedule. The crop was rated in mostly good-to-excellent condition. A few farmers were able to get a first cutting of hay last week, and the crop was rated in mostly fair-to-good condition. Pastures improved from the previous week with 67 percent of the acreage now rated in good-to-excellent condition.

There were 4 days suitable for fieldwork. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 4 percent short, 85 percent adequate, and 11 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 1 percent very short, 16 percent short, 76 percent adequate, and 7 percent surplus. Temperatures last week averaged 1 to 2 degrees above normal across the entire State. Precipitation averaged slightly below normal for middle and eastern sections of the State, but slightly above normal across Western Tennessee.

CROP PROGRESS: Through April 30, 2006					CONDITION: On April 28, 2006					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2005	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Apples – Blooming or Beyond	95	90	89	93	Pastures	0	5	28	55	12
Corn Planted	87	79	75	82	Hay	1	6	36	48	9
Corn Emerged	70	36	45	56	Winter Wheat	2	4	15	56	23
Cotton Planted	10	7	8	12						
Soybeans Planted	7	n/a	6	4						
Winter Wheat – Headed	82	47	55	55						

n/a = not available

County Agent Comments

- “Frequent showers have corn looking good at this time. Wheat is progressing well. All producers are primed to begin soybean and cotton planting in full gear.”

Tim Campbell, Dyer County
- “Showers, thunderstorms, and cloudy days have kept producers from accomplishing much field work. Producers used the wet weather to work on farm equipment and scout emerging corn for stand acceptability and insect damage. Some fungicide spraying of wheat has occurred.”

Jeff Lannom, Weakley County
- “Timely rains have rejuvenated pastures that were set back by dry weather and cold temperatures. However, the hay crop looks like it will be somewhat short this spring.”

Ronnie Barron, Cheatham County
- “Greenhouse tobacco plant production has progressed well with only a few problems to this point. A few incidents of collar rot (sclerotinia) were reported this week.”

Paul Hart, Robertson County
- “Colder than normal March weather has delayed hay growth. Many farmers are delaying hay harvest, hoping for more yield. Also, sporadic rains and storms are still prevalent.”

Chris Ramsey, Sullivan County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: April 30, 2006 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F Since April 1	
	Week Ending April 30, 2006				Current Week 04/30/06	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal		
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN					Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	88	41	63	-1	0.54	3	19.45	-0.01	242	130
Tri-City_RGNL_A	77	38	61	4	1.02	3	14.42	0.75	91	68
Brownsville_TN	83	44	64	1	2.50	4	20.28	1.10	247	190
Chattanooga/Lov	84	45	66	4	0.54	3	15.03	-5.01	215	149
Clarksville_Sew	77	41	63	3	0.35	1	14.46	-3.65	198	128
Cookeville	79	39	61	3	0.10	2	19.94	0.25	116	104
Covington	84	45	63	-1	1.32	2	17.97	-1.22	211	124
Crossville_AP	79	40	61	4	0.41	3	19.10	-0.74	130	104
Dayton	83	43	63	2	0.24	3	15.94	-4.64	133	80
Dickson_AG	78	36	61	-2	0.57	3	15.99	-3.05	176	103
Dover_1W	79	39	61	1	0.40	2	15.21	-3.61	168	120
Dyersburg	84	43	65	1	1.04	3	16.56	-0.95	257	151
Erwin_1W	80	39	61	6	1.72	2	16.73	1.21	94	49
Huntingdon_Wate	85	41	64	2	1.07	2	15.46	-2.99	205	147
Jackson_Exp_Stn	84	41	64	2	1.47	3	19.42	1.04	236	154
Kingston_AG	85	44	64	5	1.38	3	20.58	0.00	141	110
Knoxville_AP	83	44	65	5	0.86	3	17.14	0.10	178	134
Lewisburg	84	38	63	3	0.48	3	17.97	-1.28	193	145
Lexington_TN	82	41	62	0	0.56	2	17.19	-0.62	197	181
Linden	83	38	62	2	0.71	3	18.02	-1.84	189	129
Martin	83	40	63	1	0.77	4	18.98	0.70	183	116
Mc_Minnville_Tn	82	40	63	2	0.42	2	19.42	0.54	199	108
Memphis_AG	88	45	64	-3	1.76	2	20.46	1.51	250	115
Milan	85	37	63	2	1.13	3	16.67	-1.93	217	149
Murfreesboro_5N	82	41	63	3	0.17	3	21.19	2.93	202	82
Nashville_Metro	82	42	64	3	0.29	1	15.74	-0.87	246	170
Newcomb	81	38	61	5	0.56	3	17.09	-1.26	97	83
Oneida	79	40	61	5	0.81	3	17.62	-0.73	104	31
Portland_TN	77	40	61	2	0.44	2	15.27	-2.39	158	116
Pulaski_Water_P	85	40	63	-1	0.51	3	18.67	-1.20	190	103
Savannah_6SW	87	42	65	0	2.20	3	21.12	0.24	232	169
Sparta_TN	82	39	63	4	0.77	3	23.45	4.29	166	130
Springfield	78	35	61	2	0.25	1	17.85	0.67	150	108
Springhill	85	40	63	3	0.25	2	20.13	0.43	191	144
Union_City	83	39	62	1	0.98	5	18.55	0.56	166	105
Waynesboro_TN	83	39	62	2	0.51	3	21.14	0.02	172	103

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). GDD = Growing Degree Days.
Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
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